

The Maine Department of Education

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MEET THE MDOE MTSS TEAM

Who serves on the MTSS Team at the Department of Education? Head to p. 02 and find out!

**Start with the heart:
Universal Screening
for Well-Being is a
Necessary
Component for any
MTSS p.02**

WAYS YOU CAN TAKE ACTION

If student attendance wasn't complex enough prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, it certainly is now. Check out this Attendance Toolkit designed to help you support student attendance. p.02

Maine Department of Education Launches a New Web Resource to Support MTSS Framework Implementation

by Andrea Logan, MTSS Specialist

On December 18, 2020 the Maine DOE launched a new website designed to assist schools and districts with implementation of MTSS. This resource aims to be a useful guide and implementation tool that will provide both relevant content, and implementation support for educators. With a focus on braiding together the "what" and the "how" of MTSS, the site is a tool box filled with resources to put in your own toolbox for whenever you need them. The website is a work in progress, so new content will be added regularly. You can check it out - [here](#).



Dr. Rachel Brown-Chidsey of the University of Southern Maine to co-host the next MTSS MicroPD.

Title: *Using Evidence-Based Tier I Core Instruction?*
Description: This session will review the definition of evidence-based instruction and examine barriers and enablers that influence utilization. Participants will learn the definition of evidence-based practice, and where to locate evidence-based materials and supports. The session will be interactive, and attendees will have the opportunity to discuss their local needs.

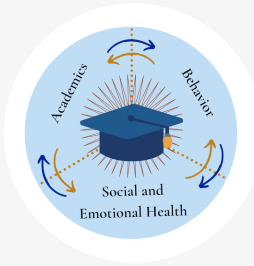
Start with the Heart: Universal Screening for Well-Being is a Necessary Component for any MTSS

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The Covid-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the social and emotional health and well-being of school children, families, and educators. Having a system for keeping tabs on student well-being is an important part of a MTSS with children at the center. However, Dr. Dana Miller of Central Rivers Area Education Agency (CRAEA) and colleague, Joe Kramer, raise the caution flag regarding standardized universal screeners in a remote teaching framework.

"Virtual interactions are not sufficient for teachers to accurately assess students. Data gathered, and the results would be invalid," Miller and Kramer offer in a Q and A resource regarding universal screeners in a virtual setting.

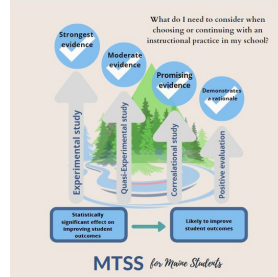
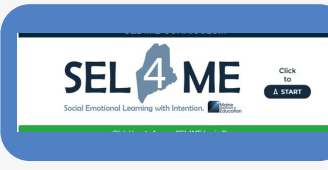
So, how do you accomplish effective, necessary screening if standardized screeners aren't the best option? CRAEA published this document [Well-Being Universal Screening via Virtual Learning FAQ](#), and a companion resource, [What to Look For: Identifying Signs of Distress and Mental Health/Well-being through Virtual Learning](#) for educators and policy makers to consider when addressing this component of universal tier 1.



Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

MTSS webinars and professional development.

[See Playlist](#)



The MDOE MTSS Team

Andrea Logan - MTSS Specialist
Kellie Bailey - SEL Specialist
Tracy Whitlock - PBIS Specialist
Bear Shea - Mental Health Specialist
Deqa Delac - Family and Culture Specialist
Cheryl Lang - ESEA
Monique Sullivan - Title 1
Jonathan Monroe - Data
Marcy Whitcomb - Early Childhood
Jennifer Robitaille - Math Specialist
Morgan Dunton - ELA Specialist
April Perkins - ELL Coordinator
Robin Fleck - ELL Consultant
Danielle Despins - CTE

Have a question for the team?
Send us an email at
andrea.logan@maine.gov

We meet monthly to collaborate and work toward MTSS goals. Let us know if there is a challenge you face and together we will work to help you solve it.

Upcoming Events

JANUARY/FEBRUARY MICROPD

MTSS MicroPD resumes this month for a new 6-week series. MicroPD sessions are held on Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 and cover a variety of topics related to MTSS. You only need to register once. You will be able to use the same link over and over so be sure to put it somewhere safe!

[Register at this link](#)

Ways you can take action



**MTSS
TOOLKIT:
ATTENDANCE**

Supporting student attendance
through family and parent
partnerships

This Attendance Toolkit provides a collection of resources targeted toward creating compassionate, trauma-informed attendance policies.